

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-19, and 21 are pending, of which claims 8, 13 and 15-17 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 has been amended. No new matter has been presented.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of conducting a telephone interview with the Applicant's undersigned representative on June 9, 2009. As stated in the interview summary, the Examiner agreed that amending claim 1 to recite a "non-planar sinuous path" would overcome the rejection of the claims over the combination of White and Blase. The Examiner also indicated that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-11 and 18 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by White, which appears on top of page 2 of the Office Action, is a typographical error and should be ignored by the Applicant. As indicated in the Interview Summary, Applicant needs not response to this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-11, 18, 19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over White in view of Blase. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "a guide located on the main body configured for guiding the hose along a hose storage path which is a *non-planar* sinuous path around the periphery of the main body" (emphasis added). This amendment is supported by paragraph [0053] of this application. As discussed during the interview of June 9, 2009 and agreed by the Examiner, White does not teach or suggest this feature. Specifically, White's hose 32 follows a fully planar path around the vacuum cleaner. Blase does not overcome the failure of White to teach this feature. Thus, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2, 6, 7, 9-11, 18, 19 and 21 are allowable at least due to their dependency from claim 1.

In view of the above, this application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **424662010300**.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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